



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending April 1, 2012

WARM SPRING “JUMP STARTS” FARM ACTIVITIES

The 2012 farming season is well underway after a mild winter allowing farmers to progress rapidly with field activities, especially planting corn. Corn farmers across the Volunteer State took advantage of the unseasonably warm weather to push corn planting progress up by one week. Also, winter wheat is developing at rate about 10 days ahead of the normal pace and was rated in mostly good condition. Wheat growers were able to make their top dressing applications on time and there have been some reports of fungicide and insecticide applications being made. Pastures are greening-up and hay supplies remain adequate. Tobacco growers are monitoring the growth of transplants in greenhouses. Other major field activities included fertilizing pastures, herbicide applications, and land preparation for planting cotton. Hay stocks were rated 6 percent very short, 14 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus.

There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent short, 86 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 8 percent short, 84 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus. Temperatures were well above normal across Tennessee this past week. Rainfall amounts averaged near normal across East Tennessee while it was below normal for the rest of the state.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Apples – Budding or Beyond	76	n/a	55	65	Cattle	0	3	18	64	15
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	47	n/a	22	18	Pastures	0	3	21	60	16
Corn – Planted	15	n/a	4	9	Winter Wheat	0	1	13	59	27
Winter Wheat – Jointed	65	n/a	34	35						
Winter Wheat – Top Dressed	83	n/a	85	80						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Wheat is currently looking good. A few acres have been sprayed for aphids. Fungicide applications have started on wheat. Corn planting has begun this week and will be full swing weather permitting.” **Tim Campbell, Dyer County**

“Farmers are planting corn. Wheat looks good. Bermuda pastures are greening up.” **Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County**

“Warm, dry weather has producers planting corn at a rapid pace. Many producers are applying fertilizer to corn land and some fungicide applications in wheat are being made.” **Jeff Lannom, Weakley County**

“Giles County could benefit from some rain. The last few storms have by-passed the county. Dry conditions have allowed for many acres of pasture and hay to be fertilized. Corn planting is getting underway.” **Kevin Rose, Giles County**

“The top of the ground could get dry if we don't get rain soon. We are having an early spring and we are not planting corn as fast as we could due to frost concern and the availability of seed corn.” **Larry Moorehead, Moore County**

“Wheat, hay and pasture fertilizer applications continue. Herbicide applications for buttercup and thistles being made.” **David K. Glover, Smith County**

“Perfect weather for planting, wheat is ahead of schedule, fruit trees are past the normal March stages. Everything looks good but, we have an abundant crop of weeds.” **Ruth Correll, Wilson County**

“About 10% of the (wheat) crop has headed, with the bulk of the crop in the early to late boot stage. The crop is in excellent condition with very little pest pressure. Planters have been running steady for two weeks with about 30% of the (corn) seed in the ground. Sugarcane beetles began emerging in heavy numbers especially in western half of the county on March 22, no reports of damage to corn as of yet. Pastures are making excellent growth; cattle are beginning to back off hay considerably. There has been some wheat and cool season hay harvested.” **Ed Burns, Franklin County**

“Red buds have dropped flowers and dogwoods are already past peak. Just about the earliest I have ever seen that in my lifetime! Unseasonably warm in Tennessee!” **Creig C. Kimbro, Grundy County**

“Producers are getting geared up early. Ground is dry enough to work and many are ready to plant even though we are a couple of weeks early. Probably 70% of pasture and hay fertilizer has been spread.” **Scott Chadwell, Putnam County**

“Rainfall has been frequent and substantial so far this spring. Fertilizing of pasture and hay land has been in full swing.” **John Wilson, Blount County**

“Unusually warm weather and adequate rainfall has pastures coming on strong.” **Steve Edwards, Campbell County**

“Wet and hoping we do not get a freeze.” **Neal Denton, Knox County**

“2” rain this week and warm temperatures have kick-started spring growth.” **John Goddard, Loudon County**

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: April 1, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending April 1, 2012				Current Week 4/01/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	85	47	66	10	0.38	1	10.5	-3.64	0	-0.19
Brownsville_TN	86	49	68	12	0.22	1	10.24	-3.89	0	-0.17
Covington	85	50	67	13	0	0	12.14	-1.9	0	-0.18
Dyersburg	82	52	68	13	0	0	9.14	-4	0	-0.16
Huntingdon_Wate	84	48	66	13	0	0	8.71	-5.37	0	-0.16
Jackson_Exp_Stn	85	49	68	14	0	0	10.96	-2.63	0	-0.16
Lexington_TN	84	48	66	13	0	0	11.15	-2.36	0	-0.16
Martin	84	48	67	15	0.05	1	10.81	-2.77	0	-0.17
Memphis_AG	85	50	69	12	0.25	1	11.05	-2.8	0	-0.18
Milan	84	48	67	14	0	0	10.51	-3.45	0	-0.17
Paris	83	48	66	13	0	0	9.7	-4.15	0	-0.17
Savannah_6SW	85	48	67	10	0.54	3	13.52	-2.3	0.15	-0.03
Selmer	84	48	67	13	0.59	2	12.79	-2.81	0	-0.18
Union_City	82	43	65	13	0.04	1	9.6	-3.91	0	-0.16
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	84	46	67	15	0	0	9.38	-4.61	0	-0.17
Cookeville	80	43	62	11	0	0	15.13	-0.24	0	-0.17
Crossville_AP	77	43	63	13	0.16	1	14.51	-0.86	0	-0.17
Dickson_AG	84	48	66	12	0	0	12.19	-2.16	0	-0.17
Dover_1W	83	49	66	14	0	0	10.69	-3.55	0	-0.17
Fayetteville_TN	82	45	66	14	0.02	1	14.99	-0.63	0	-0.17
Jamestown	79	42	61	11	0	0	15.77	1.62	0	-0.16
Kingston_Spring	83	46	65	14	0	0	10.95	-3.34	0	-0.16
Lewisburg	86	40	64	12	1.38	3	11.25	-3.66	0.5	0.33
Livingston_WLIV	82	43	63	10	0.07	2	16.29	2.47	0.04	-0.11
Lobelville	83	45	64	12	0	0	10.66	-4.67	0	-0.17
Murfreesboro_5N	83	43	64	11	0.18	1	12.41	-1.69	0.18	0.02
Nashville_Metro	85	48	67	13	0	0	11.05	-1.49	0	-0.15
Oneida	79	39	61	12	0.22	2	16.96	2.78	0.06	-0.1
Portland_TN	83	44	64	13	0.06	1	11.73	-1.89	0	-0.16
Pulaski_Water_P	81	45	63	7	1.9	2	12.95	-2.79	1.72	1.55
Shelbyville	82	45	66	11	0.58	2	13.92	-1.3	0	-0.17
Sparta_TN	82	43	64	11	0.19	1	12.98	-1.9	0	-0.16
Springfield	82	45	65	14	0	0	11.71	-1.47	0	-0.15
Springhill	87	42	64	13	0.25	2	11.26	-3.71	0.17	-0.01
Tullahoma	80	47	65	10	0.16	1	13.37	-2.95	0	-0.18
Waynesboro_TN	81	43	64	12	0.44	2	11.94	-4.21	0.19	0
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	83	53	67	13	1.87	2	14.73	-1.34	0.4	0.23
Cleveland_6NNE	80	48	64	12	0.48	2	15.06	-0.83	0.05	-0.11
Dayton	80	50	65	11	0.46	2	14.38	-1.99	0.05	-0.12
Erwin_1W	77	37	58	10	0.95	3	10.82	-0.97	0.12	-0.02
Gatlinburg_2SW	78	44	61	11	0.51	5	16.97	2.73	0.03	-0.12
Greeneville	80	38	60	10	0.69	2	11.14	0.21	0.02	-0.1
Kingston_AG	82	47	64	13	0.35	2	15	-1.42	0.02	-0.15
Knoxville_AP	79	49	65	12	0.82	3	15.79	2.19	0	-0.14
Newcomb	82	41	61	13	0.14	2	16.53	2.35	0.07	-0.09
Norris_4NE	82	41	63	12	0.79	2	17.14	2.94	0.63	0.48
Tri-City_RGNL_A	78	37	60	10	0.27	2	10.73	0.14	0	-0.11

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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